PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 3329.02US03

Bruce E. Thomas et al.

Confirmation No.: 3931

Application No.:

10/606,039

Examiner: Blair M. Johnson

Filed:

June 25, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3634

For:

DOOR WITH VARIABLE LENGTH SCREEN

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The listing of a reference herein is not an admission that the reference is prior art or that the reference is material to patentability.

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/212,465, filed August 5, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Please debit Deposit Account No. 16-0631 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 16-0631 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Application No. 10/606,039

The Commissioner is hereby also authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)(2) and 37 CFR 1.17(p) in connection with filing this Statement as well as any other fees due under 37 CFR §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.

Respectfully submitted,

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO 10/606.039 Application Number June 25, 2003 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Thomas et al. (Use as many sheets as necessary) 3634 Art Unit Blair M. Johnson Examiner Name 3329.02US03 Attorney Docket Number of 1 Sheet 1 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Name of Patentee or Applicant **Publication Date EXAMINER** Cite of Cited Document Document Number MM-DD-YYYY INITIAL* No.1 Number-Kind Code² (if known) Philip Crain 12-22-1964 US-3,161,923 07-08-1975 James T. Cribben US-3,893,261 Bancroft et al. 08-15-1978 US-4,106,239 Harry M. Riegelman 05-13-1980 US-4,202,136 Burl H. Atchison 08-02-1983 US-4,395,847 Lancina 04-11-2006 US-7,025,105 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Foreign Patent Document Publication Date **EXAMINER** Cite T^6 Name of Patentee or Applicant MM-DD-YYYY INITIAL* No.1 of Cited Document Country Code³ Number⁴Kind Code⁵ (if known) Neher Systeme GmbH X 07-03-1997 DE 196 39 478 A1 & Co. KG, 78665 (English Translation) Frittlingen, DE Reddiplex Group PLC 06-11-2003 EP01318267A2 Reddiplex Group PLC 12-07-2005 GB2414762A DATE EXAMINER CONSIDERED **SIGNATURE**

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.